

YE ARE COMPLETE IN HIM

"YE ARE COMPLETE IN HIM..."

(COLOSSIANS 2:10)

The believer's standing in Christ does not fluctuate with his feelings, not even the increase or decrease of his faith or understanding or anything else. He stands complete in Christ. God would never trust any of His children to stand before him at anytime in their own selves – that is, in their merits or certain good frames of mind. He knows our frame. He remembers that we are yet dust. Therefore, He has on purpose provided for them this perfect standing in Christ Jesus. *"Ye are complete in Him,"* the Holy Ghost said. He says in another place, *"Ye are perfect in Christ Jesus,"* (Col. 1:28.) The very nature of our God requires us to be perfect and complete before Him at all times. He, out of necessity, therefore provided all this for His children: a perfection, a completeness, which can never be diminished. It is as unchanging as God himself, (Hebrews 6:17; 13:8). Every true believer may walk through this world in perfect liberty, free from anything and everything—yes, even his sin, fear of condemnation, and all else that would cause him to doubt of his completeness. He may freely come to God, worship Him, call Him *"Father,"* and this he may do at all times with the utmost confidence and thankfulness, because in Christ he stands, first and foremost and always, complete before God. O thanks be to God for Jesus Christ.

PASTOR BRUCE CRABTREE

"OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS"

*"OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO OF GOD IS MADE UNTO US WISDOM,
AND RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SANCTIFICATION, AND REDEMPTION"*

(1 CORINTHIANS 1:30)

The Word of God declares *"of Him are ye in Christ Jesus."* Now, what evidence is there that I am in Christ? Can I know that by looking at myself? God forbid—rather, the only evidence is that I believe Christ.

Beloved, our salvation is found in a person, Christ Jesus the Lord,. The only evidence that I'm saved is that I am, right now as I type these words, trusting the Lord Jesus Christ for all my salvation. In fact He is my only hope of being saved. That's the evidence that I am in Christ, united to Him.

Beloved, Christ Jesus is our *"all, and in all"* (COLOSSIANS 3:11). To you who believe on Christ, *"ye are complete in Him."* All our wisdom, all our righteousness, all our sanctification, all our redemption is of the LORD. And all of that beloved, so that we may do *"according as it is written"*—*"glory in the LORD"* (1 CORINTHIANS 1:31). AMEN!

PASTOR

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

April 21st, 2019

*"If ye then be risen with CHRIST,
seek those things which are
above, where CHRIST sitteth on
the right hand of GOD"*

(COLOSSIANS 3:1)



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AND WE KNOW

*“AND WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THEM THAT
LOVE GOD, TO THEM WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE”*

(ROMANS 8:28)

And we know! we don't just believe it beloved, we know it! We know that our *good and ready to forgive* Lord works all things together for our good. He has loved us with an eternal, everlasting love: He has *saved and called* us according to His purpose and grace given to us in Christ Jesus before the world began! [PSALM 86:5, JEREMIAH 31:3, 2TIMOTHY 1:9].

Beloved, We are Ascended with Him

Because His saving work is finished, we are risen with Him [PSALM 20:8].

Beloved, We are Accepted in Him

Because His life is well pleasing to the Father, we are righteous by and in Him. We have received the forgiveness of sins through the shedding of His precious blood and are accepted in God's beloved Son through His blood and righteousness [2 PETER 1:17].

And lastly beloved, We will Appear as He is

Because our life is hid and found in Him, we can rejoice in Him and glorify Him, who is our redeemer, our surety, and our righteousness. We know, *as He is so are we in this world*, and so shall we be ever more. Beloved, seek those things which are above, follow Christ Jesus our Lord and God [1 JOHN 4:17].

PASTOR

DO YOU BELIEVE WITH ALL YOUR HEART?

*“...AS THEY WENT ON THEIR WAY, THEY CAME UNTO A CERTAIN WATER: AND THE
EUNUCH SAID, SEE, HERE IS WATER; WHAT DOT HINDER ME TO BE BAPTIZED?
AND PHILIP SAID, IF THOU BELIEVEST WITH ALL THINE HEART, THOU MAYEST. AND
HE ANSWERED AND SAID, I BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD”*

(ACTS 8:36-37)

Baptism is an essential part of our public profession of the faith of the gospel. By baptism we confess our union with Christ, and confidence in Him as our representative before God—*“As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”* In baptism we acknowledge our sin and its just punishment, and we testify of our faith in Christ's substitutionary death to put away sin—*“Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?”* And we confess our faith in the resurrection of Christ, and our spiritual resurrection by His power in our baptism—*“We were buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead.”* *“Therefore, we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life.”* [ROMANS 6:3, COLOSSIANS 2:12, ROMANS 6:4]

[Reader] do you believe with all your heart? If so, then, you ought to follow the Lord in believer's baptism. Secret disciples, like Joseph and Nicodemus, must always be suspect disciples. Children of God, let us remind ourselves continually of our public profession in baptism. Are we indeed crucified with Christ? Let us, then, count the world as a dead thing to us. Are we indeed risen with Christ? Let us, then, walk in the newness of life.

According to the New Testament, there is but one thing essential to baptism. The person being baptized must have a personal heart faith in Jesus Christ. The essence of baptism is not in the person or church performing it, but in the heart obedience of the person being baptized. You must have a personal faith in the person, work, and power of Jesus Christ the Son of God. To be baptized without faith in Christ is as dangerous as partaking of the Lord's Table without faith. In both cases the unbeliever fails to discern the Lord's body. If the Holy Spirit enables you to trust Christ alone for your complete salvation, you should be baptized, publicly *‘calling on the name of the Lord’*.”

PASTOR **DON FORTNER**